

# House Watch

A summary of today's House actions;  
published daily when the House is in session.



5/27/08

## FINAL PASSAGE

**SB 776**

**(Brown)**

Partial-birth abortion ban.

- Bauer-1 was not adopted [RC 437: 40 yes, 67 no]
- Byrnes-2 was not adopted [RC 438: 41 yes, 66 no]
- Smith-3 was not adopted [RC 439: 31 yes, 76 no]
- Meadows-4 was not adopted [RC 440: 41 yes, 66 no]
- Warren-5 was not adopted [RC 441: 41 yes, 67 no]
- SB 776 advanced to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading
- SB 776 was passed [RC 442: 74 yes, 32 no]
- IE was ordered

**HB 6048**

**(Warren)**

The bill (as introduced) would add a new section to the Public Health Code (333.20190) to require the Department of Community Health to prepare and distribute medically and factually accurate written information about emergency contraception to health facilities and agencies that provide emergency or urgent care; this would have to be done within 30 days of the bill's effective date. Beginning on the 30th day after the bill took effect, the affected health care facilities and agencies would have to provide the written information to persons who provide care to victims of criminal sexual assault. The information would then have to be provided to any female victim of criminal sexual assault who was of childbearing age, along with an offer of emergency contraception. If requested by the victim, the facility or agency would have to administer emergency contraception to her. An annual report of the number of times emergency contraception was administered to sexual assault victims would have to be made to the department by those facilities and agencies. The report could not identify any individual patient, it would be confidential, and would not be subject to public disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. The department would have rule-making authority to implement the bill's provisions.

- Committee amendment adopted
- HB 6048 advanced to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading
- HB 6048 was passed [RC 443: 57 yes, 51 no]
- IE was ordered

### **HB 4998**

**(Virgil Smith)**

The bill would amend the No-Fault Act within the Insurance Code to specify that an insurance company providing personal injury protection (PIP) benefits under an automobile policy "has a duty to deal fairly and in good faith with an injured person claiming benefits and that person's providers" (e.g., health care providers). An insurer that breaches this duty, under the bill, would be liable for compensatory, consequential, economic, noneconomic, and exemplary damages proximately caused by the breach, and for the costs of litigation, including actual attorney fees.

- Committee amendments adopted
- Garfield amendment not adopted
- HB 4998 advanced to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading
- HB 4998 was passed [RC 444: 59 yes, 48 no]
- IE was ordered

## **THIRD READING**

### **HB 6050**

**(Donigan)**

The bill would amend the Public Health Code by adding Part 98, entitled "Emergency Contraceptives" (MCL 333.9801 et al.). The bill would also create the Emergency Contraceptive Education Act. The bill would list numerous legislative findings, including the following:

- That about one-half of all pregnancies in the U.S. each year are unintended (about 3 million), with about half of those unintended pregnancies ending in abortion.
- That the federal Food and Drug Administration has found emergency contraception (generally, regimens of birth control pills taken within 72 hours of unprotected sex or contraceptive failure) to be safe and effective in preventing unintended pregnancies, with an effective rate of about 89 percent.
- That emergency contraception does not cause abortion or affect an established pregnancy (it delays ovulation, prevents fertilization, and prevents implantation).
- That the use of emergency contraception could reduce the number of unintended pregnancies, thereby reducing the need for abortions.
- That few gynecologists routinely discuss or offer prescriptions for emergency contraceptives, despite recommendations from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, thus suggesting a need for more professional and patient education.
- That the federal "Healthy People 2010" initiative establishes a ten-year goal of increasing the proportion of health care providers providing emergency contraception to patients.
- That public awareness campaigns would help remove many barriers to emergency contraception.

Under the bill, the Department of Community Health would have to develop and disseminate information on emergency contraceptives for the public and also for the medical community. The public information would have to include, at a minimum, a description of emergency contraceptives, along with an explanation of the use, safety, efficacy, and availability of the drugs. The information provided to health professionals would have to include information on the use, safety, efficacy, and availability of emergency contraceptives, as well as a recommendation regarding the use of them in specific appropriate cases and information explaining how to obtain additional copies of the public information for distribution to patients. "Emergency contraceptive" would mean a prescription that was used after sexual relations and that prevented pregnancy by preventing ovulation, fertilization of an egg, or implantation of an egg in a uterus.

- HB 6050 advanced to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading
- HB 6050 was postponed for the day

### **SB 296**

**(Jelinek)**

This bill would allow children of any age to operate any type of vehicle classified as an off-road vehicle (ORV) under Michigan law (except for a three-wheeled ATV) at a riding or racing event organized by any person or organization so long as the riding or racing event is not held on state-owned land and minimum requirements were met. Children driving or racing ORVs at such events would no longer need to possess an ORV safety certificate from Michigan or another state or province.

- Substitute H-1 was adopted
- SB 296 advanced to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading

## **MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

### **HR 381**

**(Steil)**

A resolution memorializing June 28, 2008, as Epilepsy Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.

- HR 381 was adopted